

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend this application at the paragraph spanning pages 22-23 as follows:

The water permeability can be obtained as follows. A microporous film having been immersed in alcohol in advance is set in a stainless water-permeability cell 41 mm in diameter, the alcohol in the film was washed ~~way~~ away with water, the film is permeated with water at a differential pressure of about 50000 Pa, and the amount of water having permeated ( $\text{cm}^3$ ) after 120 seconds have elapsed is measured. The amount of water having permeated per unit time-unit pressure-unit area is calculated using the above measured amount, and the calculated value is used as the water-permeability.

Please amend this application at the paragraph spanning pages 23-24 as follows:

A schematic view of a measuring device for measuring the shutdown temperature and short-circuit temperature at the time of high speed heat-up is shown in Fig. 1. Two sheets of nickel foil 10  $\mu\text{m}$  thick (A, B) were prepared, and one of them (nickel foil A) was fixed on a slide glass 2 with its surface masked with "Teflon" (registered trademark) tape 8 (the shaded portion of Fig. 2) leaving 10 mm x 10 mm square portion unmasked (Fig. 2). As an electrolyte, 1 mol/liter of lithium borofluoride solution (solvent:propylenecarbonate/ethylenecarbonate/ $\gamma$ -butyl lactone = 1/1/2) was

used. The other (nickel foil B) was put on a ceramic plate 4 to which a thermo couple 3 was connected, a microporous film 1 as a sample to be measured, which had been immersed in the above described electrolyte for 3 hours, was put on the nickel foil B, the slide glass with the nickel foil A stacked thereon was put on the microporous film, and silicon rubber 5 was put on the slide glass. The ceramic plate with the nickel foil B, the film 1, the slide glass and the silicon rubber ~~put on its~~ was set on a hot plate 7 and heated from 25°C up to 200°C at a heat-up rate of 15°C/min while undergoing a pressure of 1.5 MPa by an oil hydraulic pressing machine 6. The change of impedance during this operation was measured with a LCR meter under an alternating voltage of 1 V and frequency of 1 kHz. In this measurement, the temperature at which the impedance reached 1000  $\Omega$  was taken as the shutdown temperature. And the temperature at which the impedance became lower than 1000  $\Omega$  again after the pores of the film were brought to the blocked state was taken as the short-circuit temperature.